

CHANGES IN CUBA

Different Sentiments Expressed by the People.

AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION PASSING

Havana Newspapers Reflect the Present Situation.

THE NEW CONDITIONS

Special Correspondence of The Evening Star.

HAVANA, May 11, 1901. It is easy to note after a few weeks' absence the changes which are going on in Cuba. The situation, says one of the Spanish papers, "is political, economic and moral." The moral part does not need analysis at present. It is the political and economic situation which counts.

On the boat coming to Havana from New York I saw the indications of the transition in ideas and sentiment. A bright young Cuban, who for several years had written revolutionary articles for the newspapers from the safe haven of the United States, had become quite conservative. Formerly he talked about the free and sovereign Cuba, and spoke patronizingly of what the American people had done for the island. But on this trip he was boasting of his American citizenship and pointing out the difference between the Cubans and "us Americans." He spoke sympathetically of the Cuban character and with a real appreciation of both its strength and weakness, saying that the object lesson of the last two or three years had been the greatest blessing the island had known. He had very clear notions of what is ahead and announced his own conversion to annexation: "But I am not going to talk politics," he said, in explaining his position. "I am going to Havana to engage in business and not to give the Cubans advice." He had formed a good business connection with an American firm and was a little fearful that the Platt amendment might not be accepted.

A Feminine Change.

A Cuban woman of wealth and social position, who had made financial sacrifices to free the island from Spain, was also a passenger. A year ago she was a fierce partisan of absolute independence and was the leading spirit in an anti-American circle which exercised considerable influence, and which was constantly charging the United States with bad faith in not having set Cuba adrift immediately after Spain was driven out. To my surprise she was now engaged in reading several of her Cuban compatriots for what she called "their failure to realize the reality." With feminine volubility she berated them for not seeing the situation just as she saw it at the moment. This Cuban woman had become so far converted that she did not want even the experiment of an independent government. "You are willing to see Cuba go hungry and ragged," she told her companions, "because you are afraid to acknowledge your weakness. They protested, but they did not convince her even that they were justified in at least trying to maintain an independent government under the wing of the United States. "The people will go hungry," she kept telling them, "and you politicians will be responsible for it."

I do not believe that her statements were entirely just, for the majority of the Cuban politicians now are realizing that it is one of their duties to see that the inhabitants of the island do not go hungry, and they have fastened to what is called "the economic propaganda" with an energy and tenacity which is creditable to their judgment. They are going ahead in their efforts to form a government of their own, but on the basis of commercial reciprocity with the United States, which means concessions for Cuban sugar, tobacco and fruits in the American markets. That is the best way and in reality the only way of keeping the Cuban people of Cuba from going hungry and ragged.

An idea of the change that has been going on almost unconsciously in the public mind is to be had from the Havana newspapers. They are fairly representative of public sentiment and opinion. The trained habit of looking to them for suggestions quickly affords the information of what the people are thinking and saying. Last winter they were saying a great deal in a faint-flinging way of American administration and American officials. The criticism was not always as unjust and unbecoming as the officials thought, but there was a great deal that was petty and mean. Now there is still criticism and fault-finding, but I noticed that the "space" given up to these topics is far less than a few months ago, hardly more than a fourth.

The American Administration Passing. This is about the most significant sign of a change. It means that both Spaniards and Cubans have discovered that the American administration is passing and that in the future they will be concerned with their own administration rather than with the authority of the intervening power. The papers now are full of the discussion of the work of the constitutional convention, of the municipal elections, which will be held in June, and of the steps to be taken in preparing for the government of Cuba by Cubans. The harassed American officials now are able occasionally to pick up a newspaper without their eyes lighting on a paragraph abusing or criticizing them. Instead they find criticism and recrimination among the various Cuban factions and leaders.

The Havana Journals without knowing it themselves are likely to furnish an excellent criterion of this transition. The papers are reflecting every phase of the uncertainty which is felt as the reality approaches, and also the motives which may become the controlling ones. To read the newspapers is a pleasant way of keeping abreast with current history. Their general characteristics are the same, but they vary in detail. The conventional criticism from the fact that at this season of tropical heat, when either physical or intellectual exertion is trying, it is possible to slide along through the day with a newspaper at one's elbow, yet without any of the evidences of excitement. With the early morning edition, which is published established daily journal, of which there are two or three. Then at the midday meal, which is called breakfast, usually there is another newspaper or press. A related edition of one which should have been out in the early morning. After breakfast comes the practical suspension of business for a couple of hours during which the siesta is enjoyed, and after the siesta the afternoon papers make their appearance. Then in the evening after dinner, when the papers are reached, appears a "diario de la noche," or evening daily, which may be perused with leisure and contentment. Some of the more important journals also issue supplements of reduced size, giving the latest telegraphic news, but these are sheets hardly larger than the ordinary newspaper, and do not disturb the routine of the day. The older papers are all of a blanket size, but some of the newer ones are more adventurous and approach the tabloid experiment. This particular edition of one which should have been out in the early morning.

The Havana Newspapers. The newer journals represent differing shades of supposed political opinion, but are really merely the organs of groups of ambitious persons. That is what makes it so easy to start a newspaper in Havana. In the United States the establishment of a new medium of intelligence is generally a result of enthusiasm, inexperience and ambition; but here the experience and enthusiasm are not factors. The new paper just starts because some one man or some group of men desire to do it. How they manage to get credit for the white paper

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500 Dozens Men's Neglige Shirts.



We hold in forward stock and in our stock rooms at the present time about 500 dozens Men's Neglige Shirts.

We doubt if there's another house in town can justly lay claim to half as many.

We make this statement just to give you an idea as to the quantities we handle.

The price range is from 59c. to \$3.50. Biggest selection is at \$1.00 to \$1.50.

At these prices we show scores and scores of patterns in the choicest imported Madras; (no prints); bear that in mind. Two special makes are confined exclusively to this store for this territory, thus we show styles that are distinctly our own.

We have the very best \$1.00 Neglige Shirt it is possible to produce for that price.

Quite confident, too, many stores show no better for \$1.50. At every price, every size.

The Windsqrette Tie, 50c.

In the new summer tie, and considered the neatest and most correct to be worn with the negligee shirt.

Can be tied in four-in-hand or bow, or may be had already tied in bow knot. Just received 50 dozens in the latest patterns in Runcuch and grenadine silk, in light and dark effects.

Fancy Half Hose, 12 1/2c. to \$2.50.

That's the general price range. Specially strong from a quality and variety standpoint in our 25c. line. All colors and combinations in neat and gaudy designs; none, however, so loud as to offend good taste. Very popular with the open-neck and suit effects. At 35c. pair—3 pairs for \$1.00—we show Half Hose—fully worn 50c. pair, and commanding that price in many stores.

Extra Size Night Shirts, \$1.00.

Of fine quality cambric. Made without collar; cut extra full and show some semblance of fit. Most night shirts for big men hang like a bag. As large as 22-inch neck. As good could not possibly be made for less than \$2.

Our regular 50c. Night Shirts are cut up to 18-inch size. Made without collar, and of fine quality cambric. These are plain white or with fancy fronts.

75c. Nainsook Drawers, 50c.

Known also as crossed-hair muslin. Considered the coolest undergarment for summer wear. We're selling the regular 75c. quality for 50c. pair. Made with white ribbed bottoms, finished with pearl buttons and reinforced. All sizes.

The Straw Hat Season is Here



—and all the good things in Straw Hats are here.

Every sort that Fashion calls for. The rough straws will be the vogue—and the rougher your hat, the more in style you are.

But the Jumbo straws don't look well on every man.

So smooth straws for those who want them.

The Alpine shape will be very popular.

As to prices?

Rough, \$1.00 to \$2.50.

Smooth, \$1.19 to \$3.00.

Telescope, \$2.00 to \$3.00.

Alpine, \$1.00 to \$3.50.

Panama, \$10.00 to \$15.00.

Boys' and Children's, 50c. to \$3.

The particular facts about this hat store are:

A hat for every head.

The \$1 as stylish in shape as the \$3.

Generally 50c. better in quality than elsewhere.

We've a splendid stock of Panama Hats; genuine and imitation. The genuine, \$10 to \$15—imitation, \$4 and \$5. These are the very height of comfort and are extremely stylish and durable. They wear for years.

Here's our Straw Hat leader—and there isn't anything in town to match it. Men's Split Yachts, \$1.19, 50c. each; all the different shapes. Black and black silk bands; genuine calf sweat leather. We've made a special deal with the factory on this hat—by playing off one of the 500 dozens more.

Thus can we give a full-valued \$2 Split Yacht for \$1.19.

The Best Men's Shoe Store.



This Shoe store of ours is not quite three years old—and yet it is doing a business that would put to shame many stores with an existence of ten to fifteen years. What's the cause of such growth? Not Bargains; for we are shy of bargains in Shoes.

Yet, when we give them—they are true ones.

Generally a Shoe bargain appears inviting—not so much of a bargain frequently, however, after you've worn them.

Every business day in the year you will here find honest Shoe worth at a fair price. And if you'll compare you'll note that our value is just a little better than that most stores give.

The styles are always the newest and best, and the leathers always first stock—no seconds. Our Shoes look well in the beginning and wear well to the end.

Special emphasis is placed on the \$3.50 line, which embraces every worthy style in every popular leather—high and low cut. Few stores show better at \$5. Other prices—\$2.50, \$3 and \$5. Nothing higher, because the best that's produced do we give for a five-spot. Best Linen Shoes, high and low, \$3.50.

ink and type is a mystery, as also the sources from which the printers are paid. But these things are done, and it is a weakling of a new Havana paper which does not exist from four to six months. The charges for advertising are very cheap, and the advertisements are only incidental means of revenue. This increases the mystery as to how some of the journals manage to exist, for they all have very imposing staffs of director generals, editors, and so forth. I have observed that none of the newspapers which were published during the time of Spain's sovereignty have ceased to exist, though the constituencies for which several of them were published have disappeared. However, the vitality is remarkable.

All of them are very thorough in their discussion of leading questions, and they preserve their literary standard. The articulo de fondo or leading editorial is still a feature, and both the Cuban and the Spanish readers seem to prefer it to the more inclusive and personal editorials which some of the new papers have sought to establish. The literary or scientific article is also a feature. It speaks well for the conservatism of the readers of the Cuban daily, which is the organ of the Spanish classes, when they accept without protest a three-column demonstration of a proposition in Euclid, which differs from the demonstration usually given in the books, and get along with a four-line cablegram from New York, describing the smash in Wall Street. The Spanish and Cuban papers also continue to publish the feuilleton, or continued story, but one of the editors told me that this was a disappearing feature, because his readers were demanding more news, and he could not find room both for the news and for the continued story.

The newest phase of Havana journalism is that of the caricature. It has not yet reached the stage where it can be called a cartoon, but the Spanish reading public has taken immensely to the idea. Under the Spanish rule the caricature was not bound to see in it something that meant to reflect on the government, or to compromise the dignity of some functionary. Now that the censorship does not exist most of the papers find the caricature necessary to satisfy their readers. Occasionally one of them comes out late with a form patched up and with an explanation occurrence over which the editor and publisher had no control has made it necessary to omit the usual picture, but it will be forthcoming in the next number.

Caricatures are Broad. The caricatures in the Havana papers are coarser than those which appear in the American newspapers. They leave nothing to the imagination, but that is characteristic also of the journals of Madrid and Barcelona, which employ the best artists. A mere suggestion is not enough to impress the Spanish or the Cuban mind. Usually, though the humor is broad, it is not vulgar. The text which accompanies the caricature is generally in verse and is clever; in fact, the picture without the

verse would not be relished. The familiarity taken with subjects sacred to most Americans is almost blasphemous, and they resent it; but with the Spanish reading public there is apparently no idea of irreverence. Sacred subjects in every-day life are treated with the familiarity shown in naming persons, streets, and public parks, and to the ordinary Spanish or Cuban reader there is nothing offensive in having the saints figure in their caricatures as profane characters.

I have noticed one change in the Havana journal which unquestionably is significant of a coming political change, and the establishment of a Cuban government in which the United States or its military authority will be in the background instead of in the foreground. This is the disappearance of the English page or the English column. At one time nearly every paper in Havana published part of its contents in English. Sometimes the news was translated and more frequently the editorial articles as well as the comment from the various other newspapers. Now there is one journal which maintains an English page, and probably will continue to do so, but the others have dropped the experiment. Occasionally they launch an editorial article in English, when they want to impress American readers or want to make sure that some official knows the mean things they are saying of him. But even this practice is falling into disuse.

The public which reads the newspapers is largely a public which knows only the Spanish language, and there is no advantage to most of the papers in having an

English page or an English column. The disuse of this practice is a reminder of the new conditions of Cuban control of the island government, which are developing, reinforce the soundness of this advice.

CHARLES M. PEPPER.

Talks of Gettysburg Campaign. An informal talk on the Gettysburg campaign was given by the Rev. Dr. R. H. McKim of Epiphany Church last night at Confederate Veterans' Hall, No. 431 11th street northwest. Dr. McKim is the chaplain of the association and was introduced to the audience, composed of ladies and gentlemen, by President Wm. A. Gordon. Mr. Gordon cited several official reports in the Rebellion Record naming Dr. McKim for brave and meritorious services both at Winchester, Va. June 14 and 15, 1863, and in the battle of Gettysburg, and reports by Generals Ewell, Johnson and Geo. H. Stewart, in which he was also mentioned.

Dr. McKim was an aid at that time on General Stewart's staff. He was particularly mentioned in Ewell's report of the battle of Winchester and the capture of Miros's forces, where he, in company with two other staff officers, served the guns of an artillery company when shot but three of the cannoners were shot down.

Dr. McKim's lecture was in part about the attack his brigade made at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863, when it captured a part of the works and held possession from 6 p.m. until 10 a.m. the next day. It was listened to with rapt attention by those on

both sides who were familiar with the battle.

Excursion to Historic Spot. The National Geographic Society has arranged for its annual excursion and field meeting tomorrow, the objective point being Brandywine Springs, Del. A special train bearing the members of the society and its friends will leave the Baltimore and Ohio depot at 9 a.m. This promises to be one of the most delightful excursions ever given by this society. Much historical interest attaches to the spot where the field meeting is to be held. The surrounding region was the scene of the most stirring events of the American revolution. An interesting program has been prepared, including addresses by Chief Justice Lore and Mr. Henry C. Conrad of Wilmington, and by Prof. W. J. McGee and Mr. George B. Sudworth of this city.

Fined for Striking Wives. John Randolph, colored, of 8th street extended today in the Police Court pleaded guilty of assaulting his wife by striking her in the eye and otherwise maltreating her, and Judge O'Donnell, acting for Judge Scott, fined him \$30, with the alternative of ninety days in jail. Frederick Jones, also colored, was convicted of a similar offense, and was fined \$10, with thirty days in jail as the equivalent.

Best Styles in Men's Suits At Lowest Prices.

This is looked upon as Washington's principal clothing store. Having won the first place through strong and honest endeavor—through best goods for least money; it is only natural that to maintain the position means to continue as we have begun. And so it shall ever be.

Look at our stock this season. It comprehends everything good.

When you come here you see a perfect, a complete stock.

You see the best made garments possible to bring forth—you find the very newest, the brightest, the smartest ideas of the season.

You may pay \$8.50 to \$35 for your Spring Suit, and each pricing represents a third more value than you will find elsewhere.

The Suits at \$10.



As good is possible elsewhere at \$12.50, as good in quality we mean. The Parker-Bridget style will be lacking.

Here you are offered the pick of All-wool Fancy Cheviots in checks of great or small degree, stripes, mixtures and dull invisible plaids, besides plain blues and black.

Coats are half or full lined. Vests are generally single-breasted, high cut.

Every seam silk sewed.

They'll wear well because they're honest woollens. They'll fit perfectly because cut as we dictated. All sizes.

\$10

The Suits at \$12.

Equal to anybody else's \$15 grade. Made better than the usual merchant tailor's \$18 product. As choice patterns as contained in the \$20 line of other first-class clothing stores. Stripes, checks, plaids, mixtures and plain blues, grays and black.

Cassimeres, Cheviots, Thibets and Worsteds.

An excellent variety. Linings are of silk-finished serge or Italian cloth. Some of the coats are in semi-skeleton effect.

The short stout and the tall lean fellows can be as easily suited and fitted here as the men of regular size. Never did you see such suits for.

\$12

The Suits at \$15.



Here is veritably an embarrassment of clothing goodness. As many styles at this price, almost, as shown at any two prices in any other store.

The fabrics are high class and loomed by the world's best mills.

The patterns are such as exclusive tailors handle; rich, handsome, stylish. Seldom do you find such perfect suits as contained in our \$15 line.

They'll stand comparison with your tailor's \$25 production.

'Twould be useless to try and find as good in any other store under \$20.

\$15

The Suits at \$18.

Here you will find suits that cannot be surpassed anywhere at a much higher price.

They are masterpieces of the shears and needle. The fabrics are just such as the very exclusive custom tailor is showing now.

They are garments that have the best of everything in them. No man would hesitate to pay \$25 for any suit in this \$18 collection. If you are very particular and have exclusive notions regarding your clothes—see these suits—the chances are you'll fall a victim to their tailoring nice-



\$18

Saturday Specials in Boys' Clothing.

A Base Ball and Bat given with every Boys' Suit.

Concerning Those Boys' \$5, \$6 and \$7 Suits for \$3.49.

We told how we closed out about 600 Boys' Double-breasted, Blouse and Vestee Suits from one of the best makers at less than cost to manufacture, and how to this we added about 500 Suits taken out of our own stock and reduced them to the same price level. 1,100 Suits in all went on sale last Saturday morning. About half that many greet you this Saturday. The choice, though, is just as good as ever.

These Suits are made of the finest fancy cassimeres, cheviots and worsteds; the patterns are neat and eminently desirable. Their equal will not be found in any other store under \$5, \$6 and \$7.

While they last—yours at \$3.49.

Boys' \$6 Confirmation Suits, \$4.50.

Not reduced from \$6.00, but actually worth that much, and shown in most stores at that price. Of genuine Washington Mills blue and black cheviot. Double-breasted style. For ages 7 to 17 years. Lined with extra quality Farmer's satin—sewed throughout with silk.

Special for Saturday at \$4.50.



A Base Ball and Bat given with every Boys' Suit.

Boys' \$9 and \$10 Suits for \$6.00.

Three-piece Suits of finest Imported Fancy Worsteds. High-cut, single-breasted vests. For ages 10 to 16 years. The choicest and most desirable fancy worsteds loomed are here represented.

Boys' Wash Suits, 50c. to \$5.

At that price range any parent may find an almost bewildering lot to choose from. Of Galateas, Linens, Chambrays, Ducks, Piques, etc. Sailor and Russian Blouse styles. For all ages. Special emphasis is placed on our \$1.50 and \$2 lines. At these prices we show a bigger stock and a choicer variety than will be seen anywhere else.

The qualities and styles suggest from 50c. to \$1.00 more.

Specials in Boys' Furnishings.

Neglige Shirts of extra quality Madras. In excellent styles; regular \$1.00 grade, for—only 69c. Other Neglige Shirts, 75c., \$1.00, and the Manhattan at \$1.50.

Ballroom Shirts and Drawers, same as shown elsewhere for 35c.—25c. here.

Boys' regular 50c. grade Lisle Undershirts for—39c. Boys' Fancy Wash Stocks—50c. Boys' Leather Belts, 25c. and 50c. And everything else that boys wear.

PARKER, BRIDGET & CO.

Head-to-Foot Outfitters, Pa. Ave. and 9th St.